



Grace Assembly Of God

## Chapter-By-Chapter Bible Reading Devotional

Scripture:	<b>Genesis 50</b>	Title:	<b>"Not the End"</b>
Author:	<b>Ps Meng Cham</b>		
Summary of Chapter:	The end of the Beginning. 2 deaths, 2 embalmments: Jacob's and Joseph's. But 1 burial. Joseph would only be buried 500 years later in Canaan during the time of Joshua. So, it was not the end but a cliffhanger! For the next 500 years, every time the children of Israel looked at Joseph's bones they would be reminded and comforted that everything would be ok in the end. If it's not ok, it's not the end.		
<b>Key Verses (NLT):</b>	<b>How does it speak to me?</b>		
<p><sup>24</sup> <i>"Soon I will die," Joseph told his brothers, "but <b>God will surely come to help you and lead you out of this land of Egypt. He will bring you back to the land he solemnly promised to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.</b>"</i></p> <p><sup>25</sup> <i>Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath, and he said, "When <b>God comes to help you and lead you back, you must take my bones with you.</b>"</i></p>	<p>Joseph realized that the part he played in God's plan and purpose would come to an end. In that role there were many ups and downs; times of pits and prisons but also palaces and peaks. What matters was not the snapshots but the whole story. And that, too, not his story but God's. Similarly, in the snapshots of our lives we may miss the big picture from God's viewpoint and misunderstand what He is doing but nonetheless we must trust the loving heart and the steady hand of our Divine Scriptwriter and Director to faithfully finish the story. I nearly drowned in a swimming pool in my early teens until someone came to my rescue. In those few seconds I saw my 'short' life flashed before me and I thought that was how my life would come to an end. But praise be to God, He gave me a new beginning! Years later when I received Jesus as my Lord and Saviour, I understood then that every outcome was in His hands. Only He knows the end from the beginning. "The God of covenant will surely come to rescue you to fulfil His plan." And that's why Joseph could say to his brothers that what they had meant for evil towards him God turned it around for good. Life is too short to bear grudges and keep score. Life should be simpler: to live blamelessly before God and to trust Him to deliver us in due time.</p>		
<b>APPLICATION QUESTIONS:</b>			
<b>Adult:</b>	When we live our lives solely from the lens of the present our sense of wellbeing can be tied to our changing circumstances. How can we learn to see our lives from the bigger picture of God's viewpoint, and story? How will that change the way we live? What becomes important?		
<b>Youth:</b>	In what ways can you follow Joseph's example in treating others, whether your siblings, friends or classmates? If you were given power like Joseph, how would you treat those with no power?		
<b>Child:</b>	Share 2 experiences which you were sorry for. Share one which you had apologized and another which you found it hard to apologize. Why was one easier than the other? How do you feel when people who has hurt you do not apologize for their actions? How does the story of Joseph and his brothers help you to forgive others, who have or have not apologized to you?		
<b>PRAYER:</b>			
<b>Praying Scripture:</b>	Our loving heavenly Father, we praise You that You know the end from the beginning, that the story of our lives has been personally penned by You. May we understand that when one chapter closes on us, another opens. No circumstance or persons or life itself can negatively affect the outcomes that You have intended. Help us to trust in Your goodness wholeheartedly, that in the end it will be ok.		
<b>Thanksgiving Prayer:</b>	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food they ate, places they went, prayer that is answered, etc)		
<b>Intercessory Prayer:</b>	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)		
<b>Salvation Prayer:</b>	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (can add one name per day). In Jesus Name I/we pray. Amen.		